

PROCESS FOR THE RECOVERY  
OF SULFURIC ACID USING POLYMERIC MEMBRANES

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

10       A method for recovering acid from a feed mixture comprising acid,  
hydrocarbons and water, the method comprising:

processing said mixture using a first polymeric membrane to form a first  
retentate containing a substantially greater concentration of hydrocarbons than  
said feed mixture and a first permeate containing a substantially greater  
15       concentration of acid and water than said mixture, said first polymeric  
membrane being selectively permeable to the acid and water over the  
hydrocarbons found in the mixture, and recovering the first permeate;

said first permeate can be processed further using a second water reduction mean  
20       to form a first stream containing a substantially greater concentration of acid  
than said first permeate and a second stream containing a substantially greater  
concentration of water than said first permeate, said water reduction step may be  
a second polymeric membrane being selectively permeable to the water over the  
acid in said first permeate; and

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recovering said second stream or retentate.